

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 952 - SB 861**

March 24, 2003

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Exempts motorcyclists 21 years of age or older from the requirement to wear a helmet. Current law provides that failure to wear a helmet is a Class C misdemeanor.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Decrease State Revenues - Not Significant**  
**Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant**

**Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant**  
**Decrease Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant**

**Other Fiscal Impact - To the extent crash related injuries (head injuries) occur which would not have occurred in the absence of the bill, state and local government health care plans as well as the TennCare program will experience increased costs. Any increase in costs to such plans is difficult to quantify but is estimated to exceed \$100,000. The TennCare program will experience this increase if a few injuries occur to individuals on the TennCare program or if such injuries lead to additional individuals qualifying for TennCare as uninsurable who are at 100% of poverty.**

Estimate assumes:

- there will be a decrease in the number of citations issued for this offense resulting in decreased state and local government revenues.
- a not significant increase in state expenditures to replace Motorcycle Driver Handbooks to reflect changes in the law.
- the impact depends upon the number of persons not convicted of the offense who would have been under current law and the resulting decreased cost to local governments not having to confine such persons versus the decreased state and local revenues from fines not levied or collected under the provisions of the bill.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director